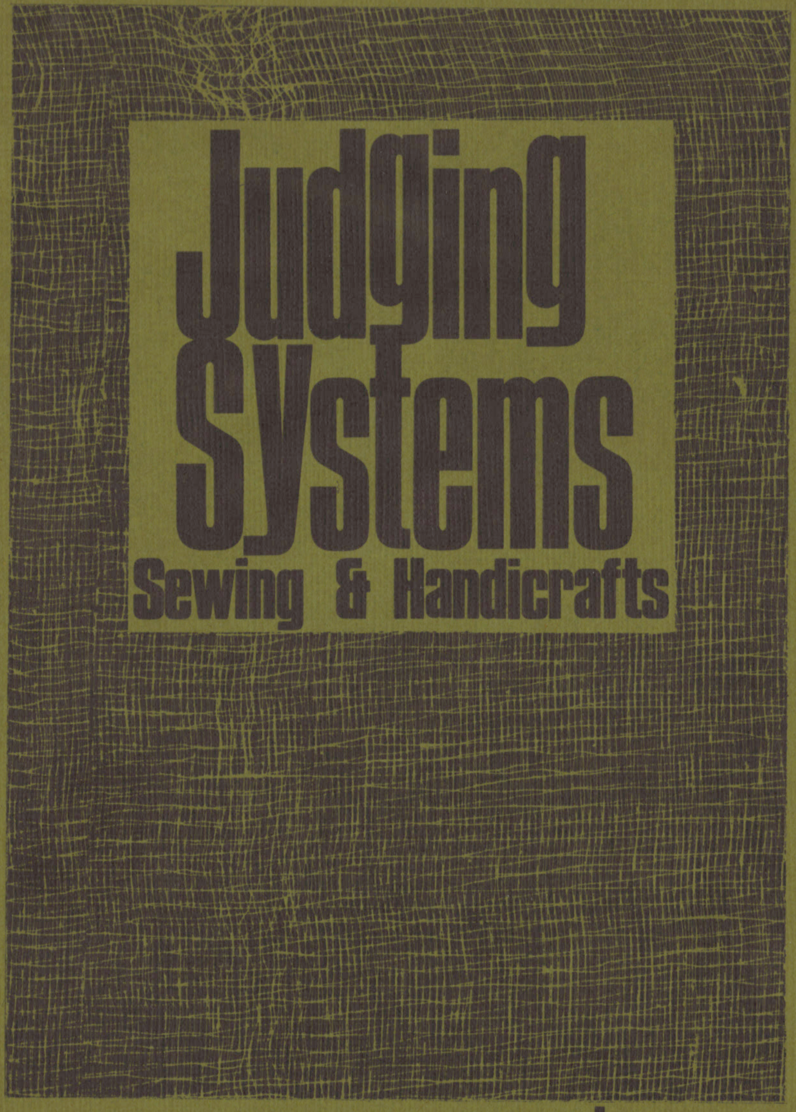

Judging Systems

Sewing & Handicrafts

HOMEDEX 980-12

Alberta
AGRICULTURE

JUDGING SYSTEM

DANISH SYSTEM

The modified Danish system of judging is generally used at competitions throughout the province, with the exception of fairs.

Colored ribbons are used to indicate the placings. All items are judged and all are given a mark. Therefore, several first placings, several second placings, etc. are awarded in each class.

Points of 10, 9 or 8 are allotted for first placings for large articles such as quilts, rugs, crocheted tablecloths and bedspreads, and 5 or 4 points are given first place small articles.

Second place articles receive 7, 6 or 5 points for large articles and 3 or 2 for small articles.

Third place entries are given 4, 3, 2, or 1 for large articles and 1 point for small articles.

	Large Article	Small Article
First Placing	Red 10-9-8	5-4
Second Placing	Blue 7-6-5	3-2
Third Placing	White 4-3-2-1	1

Usually the entrant knows only which placing his article received, but not the actual mark given.

FAIRS

At fairs, prize money is given to the three best entries. Therefore, three prize winners only are selected from each class. If an article does not reach the standard, a prize will not be given. A first or second or third prize may not be given in a class if no article is worthy.

Prizes are designated by colored ribbons: red for 1st prize, blue for 2nd and white for 3rd. Generally, articles are judged on four factors:

1. general appearance
2. suitability of material
3. aesthetic quality (color, design, texture)
4. workmanship

1. General Appearance

Be sure to read the class carefully and determine whether your entry meets the requirements. Note any restriction of size, materials, number of colors, etc.

Clean, well-pressed articles create a favorable first impression. An article may be used before it is entered, but be sure it is clean and pressed for judging.

Transfer markings on embroidery designs or sewing articles should not be noticeable. Attempt to remove them or cover them with your design.

2. Suitability of Material

Fabric and trim should be suitable to the purpose of the article and should be easy to care for. For example, a child's garment should be easily laundered and ironed, and the fabric should be suitable to the age of the child; a cushion should be smooth and comfortable to lean against and should be easily cleaned and pressed.

Trim should be harmonious with the fabric and require similar care and cleaning as the fabric. Notions such as zipper, thread, seam tape, etc. should be as close to color of the fabric as possible. Lining and trim on a washable garment should also be washable.

3. Aesthetic Qualities

Design should be related to the use of the article.

A utilitarian article, such as a teatowel or potholder, needs very little decoration.

Design should relate to the type of fabric, and the type of needlework. A coarse fabric is best decorated with a heavy type of needlework, such as crewel. A light fine fabric relates best to a finer design and thread.

Design should follow the shape of the article, that is a square design on a square article, round design on a round article.

The designs used to make up the total design should also relate to the shape of the article, for example, curvy, rounded lines and designs are best to make up a circular design on a round article.

Colors should be suited to the type of design and the fabric. Colors should relate well to each other for a pleasing color harmony. Colors should relate to the use of the article, for instance, pastel or dulled tones for a bedroom and bright and warm colors for the living area.

Color intensity should be varied. There should not be equal amounts of bright colors or dull colors. Usually the greyed or duller tones are used for large areas and bright colors for small accent areas.

Choose colors carefully. Generally, one bright color and one dark color, with one or more intermediate colors. Three colors is the maximum number for well defined color areas. Many colors can be successfully used and blended well, but must be very well chosen.

Avoid over-decorating an article. The design should enhance the shape and color and texture of an article, not be the main point of the article.

4. Workmanship

Points judges look for in:

A. Knitted Articles:

1. Clean and blocked
2. Close, even stitch (holds shape).
3. Good proportion--thumb on mitts correct size and placement.
4. Strong, suitable seam joinings (grafted toes in socks)
5. Pleasing color combination (only one bright color).
6. Design (if any):
   - a. in proportion to article
   - b. follow construction line
   - c. stylized (not naturalized) or geometric. Large designs as animals and faces detract from wearer's face.
7. Zippers, buttons, buttonholes should be neat and strong.
8. Ends of yarn should be well-woven in and finished neatly.
9. No long or loose loops on the back of patterned knitting.

B. Infants' Knitted and Crocheted Sets:

1. White or pastel colors are most suitable for babies.
2. Clean and blocked.
3. Cap and boots should be in proportion to jacket. Proper shape to each article.
4. Neck and sleeve openings neither too tight nor too big.
5. Close, even stitch (baby catches fingers in open designs).
6. Seam joinings should be flat, smooth and soft (could be needle weaving).
7. Ties made from yarn are preferable to ribbon which requires ironing.
8. Trimming should be kept simple (if any) and placed following a construction line.

C. Crocheting and Tatting:

1. Practical article; clean and well-blocked.
2. One color preferred usually. Additional color also adds to cost.
3. Article should lie flat or hold its shape without starching.
4. Design in proportion to size of piece.
5. Harmony in the various parts of the design.
6. Even stitch and tension; no loose ends or knots.
7. Joinings strong and neat.
8. Easy to care for.
9. Ruffled doilies, variegated thread, colored pansy or rose designs are:
   a. too ornate for the average home
   b. too feminine for a room occupied by a man.
   c. too decorative to serve as a background for a vase of flowers, ornament, etc.
10. Edging on hanky should be in proportion to size; not too large or loose.

D. Embroidered Mats:

1. Clean and well-pressed.
2. Material suited to article.
3. Design adapted to size and shape of article and following construction lines.
4. Avoid spotty designs in embroidery. Try to link corner designs together.
5. Design in proportion to size of article.
6. Design must not interfere with function.
7. Pleasing color combination.
8. Hem--blind or hemstitch, or simple edge. No machine stitching.
9. Crocheted edge should not overpower the embroidered design. Crocheted edge is sewed on by hand or crocheted on; not sewn on by machine. Purchased lace edging should be discouraged. An edging is not necessary when applied design such as embroidery has been used on article. Tends to overdecorate.

E. Needlepoint and Petitpoint:

1. Needlepoint is usually done on double mesh often with wool yarn, with 12 stitches or less per inch. Petitpoint is done on finer canvas usually with fine embroidery thread.
2. Neatly finished, no long threads/knots on back.
3. All threads lie in the same direction.
4. Carefully blocked and steamed. 5. Even tension.
6. Mounted (if class permits) in suitable frame with grainlines straight.

F. Liquid Embroidery:

1. If used as a substitute or replica of true embroidery, it is poor design and should be discouraged.
2. If used to give a colored, painted design to an article, it can be effective. Because the paint is not permanent, it should be used on short-term inexpensive articles (flour sack tablecloth, child's bibs, pellon placemats, etc.)
3. If a transfer design is used, the transfer outline should be completely covered with paint.
4. Design should be creative with an attempt at color blending.

G. Textile Painting:

1. Refers to screen painting, batik, tie dyeing, freehand painting on fabric. However, some articles of liquid embroidery may also be classed as textile painting.
2. Design in proportion to size of article.
3. Technique used creatibely and suitable to type of article.
4. Neatly finished edges and seams on the article.

H. Rugs:

1. Large enought to serve the purpose.
2. Lie flat on the floor.
3. Heavy enough to stay flat & in place on floor.
4. Even width.
5. Design in proportion to size of rug. Designs are often much too large.
6. Design should be adapted to shape of rug.
7. Correct method to finish edge of hooked rug is to fold burlap double at edge and hook through both layers to the edge without any burlap showing. Other methods such as folding burlap back on taping edge are accepted and would be judged on suitability and neatness.
8. Cover canvas selvage of rugs made from short pieces of wool yarn hooked to rug canvas with a latchet hook. The edges should be finished with matching carpet tape, hand stitched in place. The selvage edges could also be finished by overcasting or blanket stitching with matching yarn. The cut ends of the canvas should be turned back before the ends are hooked and the last couple of inches of rug hooked through the double layer of canvas. Circular or oval rugs of this type are best finished with matching carpet braids.

J. Cushion:

1. Keep purpose of cushion in mind; i.e. to add comfort when lying or sitting on a chesterfield or chair.
2. Shape suitable to purpose of well-proportioned cushion.
3. Applied decorative design should not interfere with function of cushion; therefore, should not be too bumpy, rough or uneve.
4. Decoration should follow shape of cushion--geometric or stylized border designs are

suitable but naturalistic not usually appropriate.
5. Choose colors carefully--they should look as if they belong together.
6. Material, design and construction should be such that the cushion can be easily cleaned.

K. Sewing--General:

1. Neat, clean and well-pressed.
2. Style suited to material and kind of garment.
3. Color pleasing and appropriate.
4. Trim suitable to garment with thread and buttons harmonizing.
5. Stitching straight with well-adjusted tension and suitable length of stitches.
6. Buttons, buttonhole and placket openings (zipper or otherwise) properly sewn. Buttonholes correct size for the button. Bound buttonholes are appropriate for tailored or dressy garments; machine made for sportswear or housedresses.
7. Seams even in width and seam finish suitable to material and use.
8. Hems, bindings and facings should be flat, smooth and even in width. Understitching used.
9. Threads fastened neatly.

L. Work Apron:

1. Adequate protection for dress.
2. Easy to put on and take off.
3. Easy to iron.

M. Tea Apron:

1. Dainty but practical. Too fancy becomes difficult to care for.

N. Housedress:

1. Conservative in style.

2. Trimming should be flat and sewed firmly to dress. Avoid lace, ruffles, ties, pleats, etc.
3. Should be easy to take off and on.
4. Should be easy to wash and iron.
5. Comfortable, with a sleeve which will provide easy and free movement.

O. Child's Dress:

1. Comfortable style.
2. Provide fullness of skirt.
3. Sleeves (if any) not too tight.
4. Suitable fabric in color and design.

P. Remodelled Garment:

1. Clean and well-pressed.
2. Material used should be in good condition and worth the work involved in remaking.
3. Colors and fabrics should harmonize if two or more fabrics used.

Q. Flour Sack Article:

1. Item should be useful and not involve too much work and time.
2. Any applied design should be simple and should follow construction lines.

R. Quilts:

1. Quilting: 7-11 stitches per inch; even stitching.
2. Durable, washable material; same type of fabric throughout.
3. Color and design: border is desirable.
4. Edging finished with binding; neat, durable. Binding should be mitred.